RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending application Ser. No. 09/847,534, filed May 1, 2001, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Correlating Events", and incorporated herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to computing systems and, more particularly, to a language for describing templates used to collect and correlate various events generated throughout a computing environment.

BACKGROUND

Computer systems, such as servers and desktop personal computers, are expected to operate without constant monitoring. These computer systems typically perform various tasks without the user's knowledge. When performing these tasks, the computer system often encounters events that require a particular action (such as logging the event, generating an alert for a particular system or application, or performing an action in response to the event). Various mechanisms are available to handle these events.

A computing enterprise typically includes one or more networks, services, and systems that exchange data and other information with one another. The enterprise may include one or more security mechanisms to safeguard data and authenticate users and may utilize one or more different data transmission protocols. At any particular time, one or more networks, services or systems may be down (e.g., powered down or disconnected from one or more networks).